

Uyles Singleton of Chicago, Illinois worked for an envelope manufacturing company for 35 years. When the company went out of business last July, Uyles had only one month's notice his employer coverage insurance, which provided him and his wife access to medical care. Uyles quickly discovered that he could not afford to pay the exorbitantly high insurance premiums and now has to pay for all of his medical and prescription drug expenses out-of-pocket. Uyles pays \$300 a month for his monthly medications to treat a chronic condition and can no longer afford to visit his regular primary care physician. In February, Uyles went to Cook County Hospital after separating his shoulder where he was x-rayed, but was not treated because he was unable to pay for the costs of care.

Unfortunately, the problem runs much deeper than just the uninsured. Perhaps the sleeping giant of our health care coverage crisis is the population of Americans who are underinsured and lack access to urgent and necessary care. If you have a chronic medical condition and your employer changes health insurance providers or you change jobs and your new policy does not cover a preexisting condition, then you or your family may experience a serious gap in coverage. If you are in need of mental health coverage that your insurance does not cover, you will be unable to access appropriate care. And if you are self-employed or unemployed for even a small stretch of time, you may find yourself priced out of the health insurance market or paying high premiums for an insurance policy that may only cover catastrophic costs. Even temporary gaps in coverage affect the health and financial stability of the so-called "insured population." A 2002 Kaiser Foundation study found that 38 percent of insured individuals report that they or their families experienced at least one problem accessing medical services in the past year, nearly one-fifth (18 percent) reported that they postponed seeking medical care and 15 percent had a problem paying medical bills.

These numbers have real meaning to the people I represent. I have been contacted by a constituent who, although being insured, suffers from breast cancer, a condition not covered by her insurance provider. The very expensive cost of fighting this disease falls squarely on her shoulders with no help from her insurer. I am greatly troubled by the many constituents that I have heard from who struggle to pay the high premiums for their insurance, only to have to ration the medical care they need for themselves and their children because of deductibles that reach \$5,000. Insurance available in today's market is clearly not a full-proof guarantee that people can access the care they need. Given the very thin line distinguishing the underinsured from the uninsured, Congress needs to act to guarantee comprehensive, quality care for both the uninsured and the badly insured.

Any of us could become uninsured and face similar problems in obtaining medical care. Action on this critical issue is long since overdue. I urge my colleagues in Congress to not delay. We must act to make health care a right entitled to each and every single American.

## CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS OF HALF HOLLOW HILLS EAST HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2004*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the students from Half Hollow Hills East High School in Dix Hills, New York for their hard work in the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" national finals.

The students, Carolyn Abott, Emily Chin, Samuel Dixon, George Duroseau, Jason Feinstein, Steven Frank, Antonia Fthenakis, Carrie Gerber, Qais Ghafary, Hannah Goldsmith, Bruce Halperin, Emily Kratter, Sami Rashid, Dan Rogove, Jessica Rosenbaum, Gayle Rudofsky, Lauren Shikowitz, Ricki Silverman, Rohini Singh, Caryn Teitelbaum, Shara Venezia-Wallerstein, Jason Vinokur, Nicole Weinstock, Joshua Wolinsky, and Joseph Wolken, led by their teacher Scott Edwards, demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

It is truly an honor to call these outstanding young Americans my constituents. Their success in this competition is also a testament to the exceptional teachers at Half Hollow Hills East High School and elsewhere on Long Island.

I offer my congratulations on their hard-won honorable mention and commend these students on their dedication to the study of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

## HONORING OAKLAND ARD

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2004*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Oakland Ard, who is being awarded the "Here's looking at you award."

Mr. Ard was born in Sampson, Alabama on September 17, 1925. Mr. Ard left Alabama for Florida on his twenty-fifth birthday.

He was employed by the Port St. Joe Paper Company from 1950 to 1952 and went on to work for Saint Regis Paper Company in Jacksonville, Florida between 1953 and 1957.

In 1957, Mr. Ard moved to Jay, Florida and began working at the Container Corporation in Brewton, Alabama.

Mr. Ard has been a great provider for his community by serving on the Jay Hospital Board of Trustees for four years, the ARC Board of Directors in Santa Rosa County for six years, SRC Chamber of Commerce for nine years. He is currently serving on the Committee's of Government and Military Affairs and the Board of Directors for SHIP.

Mr. Ard has generously volunteered his time with the Jay First Baptist Church in any needed capacity that involves helping his church or people in need. He has been a member of the Jay First Baptist Church for forty years.

Mr. Ard's unselfish deeds of giving his time to help others have made him a well-known and well-loved man throughout his community.

Mr. Ard and his lovely wife Marian have two sons, Freddy and Ronnie, four grandsons and one great grand daughter.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to recognize this special person for the example he has set in his community. I offer my sincere thanks for all that he has done for Northwest Florida and this great nation.

## PROCLAMATION FROM MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH GRAVE DEDICATION CEREMONY

**HON. MAC COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 13, 2004*

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues a proclamation that was read at a grave dedication ceremony at the Mount Pleasant Primitive Baptist Church in Jones County, Georgia. This proclamation honors a patriot of the American Revolutionary War, Private Reuben McLeroy, an ancestor of one of my constituents, Mr. Travis Ellis of Hampton, Georgia. I would like to thank Mr. Ellis and the members of the Georgia Society of Sons of the American Revolution for honoring the life of Private McLeroy and keeping the memory alive of the patriots of the Revolutionary War who achieved our independence and fought for the freedoms we enjoy today as American citizens.

### REUBEN MCLEROY, A PROCLAMATION

Whereas, The Lyman Hall, Ocmulgee, and Piedmont Chapters of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution conducted on April 24, 2004 a dedication of the grave marker commemorating the service of Revolutionary war patriot, Private Reuben McLeroy, and

Whereas, Reuben McLeroy married Christiana Johnson in April 1776 and lived in Wake County, North Carolina at the commencement of the Revolution. Reuben would enlist in the North Carolina Militia and serve gallantly for the duration of the war. Reuben's unit would participate in the Battle of Eutaw Springs and perform beyond expectations. It was at Eutaw Springs that the outnumbered colonists would defeat the enemy and end the British stronghold in the south.

Whereas, By the end of the Revolutionary War, Reuben McLeroy and family would migrate to Wilkes County, Georgia. When the county was later subdivided into several counties it was in Clarke County that Reuben was ordained as a Baptist preacher in September 1804 at the Mars Hill Baptist Church. Reuben would then move his family to Jones County, Georgia in 1810 and serve the Walnut Creek Baptist Church until his death on February 12, 1820.

Whereas, I recognize and extend my appreciation to the Sons of the American Revolution, Lyman Hall, Ocmulgee, and Piedmont Chapters, for their efforts to provide historical and educational knowledge and to perpetuate the memory of the men who, by their services and sacrifices during the War of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people; now

Therefore: As the Representative for the Eighth District of Georgia in the U.S. House of Representatives, I do hereby recognize the selfless sacrifice made by Patriot Reuben McLeroy as well as all others who with their courage and valor fulfilled a nations quest for Liberty. I hereby confirm the dedication of a grave marker for Private Reuben McLeroy and call this observance to the attention of our citizens.